

**DIRECTION-SENSITIVE, TOUCH-ACTIVATED SECURITY DEVICE AND
METHOD OF USE THEREFOR**

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This abstract has been included pursuant to Section 1.72(b) of the Rules for Patent and Trademark Cases, Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This abstract is intended only to enable the Patent and Trademark Office and the public to generally determine the nature of the technical disclosure. This abstract is not intended to aid in the interpretation of the scope of any claim.

A direction-sensitive, touch activated security device is coupled to an electronic system, such as a computing device or other type of computer-assisted equipment. The security device includes a selector which is manipulated along certain directions by a user. Signals which represent the particular movements of the selector are conveyed to the computing device where they are compared with a predetermined group of signals and associated directions. In the event that the signals from the selector accord with the predetermined group of signals, the computing device permits the user to operate the device, use the device in a specific mode, or to undock the device from a docking station. Alternatively, a user traces a pattern on a touchpad that is compared with a predetermined pattern. Based on the results of this comparison, the user is permitted access to the computing device or to operate in a specific mode.